

Application Number 09/873,933
Amendment in Response to Office Action mailed August 30, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 4-14, with the following paragraph:

FIG. 1 generally illustrates, among other things, one *PON* tree topology and particularly one particular branch in the *PON* tree structure. As shown in FIG. 1, UDP 50 is equipped to receive information including voice, video and data content. It would be understood by those of skill in the art having the present specification before them that alternative topologies will also work with the disclosed invention. As illustrated, subscriber 30 is operably connected to central office 41 via OLT 52, fiber optic cable 53, optical splitter 60a, fiber optic cable 54a and UDP 50. Thus, as depicted in FIG. 1, OLT 52 is a conduit to fiber optic cables 54a through 54n (in preferred approach $n=32$) via optical splitter 60a. Of course, other OLTs in *PON* 40 will support other branches of the *PON* via other optical splitters 60b through 60n. As further depicted in FIG. 1, it is contemplated that additional optical splitters (see reference number 61a) will exist in the system even at secondary (and deeper) levels toward supporting even further subscribers on each OLT branch via fiber optic cables 56a through 56n.